Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

Claims 1 – 18 (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method of treating a prion disease in a mammal, comprising selecting a mammal for treatment of a prion disease that is suffering from or susceptible to a prion disease and administering an effective amount of a chaotropic agent selected from a guanidine salt, sodium iodide, potassium iodide, or combinations thereof to the mammal.

20. (cancel)

21. (currently amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein said agent is guanidine hydrochloride.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the prion disease is transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

23. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said prion disease is scrapie, transmissible mink encephalopathy, chronic wasting disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, spongiform encephalopathy of exotic ruminants, feline spongiform encephalopathy, kuru, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), fatal familial insomnia, Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker syndrome, or new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (nvCJD).

24. (currently amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein said mammal is human, cow, sheep, mink, or cat.

25. (currently amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein said prion disease is bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

26. (currently amended) The method according to claim 25, wherein said mammal is a cow.

27. (currently amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein said prion disease is ~~Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease~~ CJD ~~or new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease~~ nvCJD.

28. (currently amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein said mammal is human.

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising inducing hyperthermia in ~~the human~~ said mammal during the course of treatment with the chaotropic agent(s).

30. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein between about 5 mg and about 40 mg per kilogram is administered per day.

31. (new) The method according to claim 19, wherein said agent is potassium iodide.

32. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein between 130 and 260 mg per kilogram is administered per day.

33. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein said hyperthermia is produced through applying microwave energy.

34. (new) The method according to claim 29, wherein said hyperthermia is induced by administering pyrogenic material to the mammal.

35. (new) The method according to claim 34, wherein said pyrogenic material is a mixture of inactivated bacterial toxins.